

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 255701

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:XGDS - 2

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, HO

SUBJECT: PROSPECTIVE CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT

REFERENCES: A) TEGUCIGALPA 4977; B) DAO MSG 1821582,
11/74

1. WE APPRECIATE POINT MADE IN PARA 4, REFTEL A TO
EFFECT THAT PROSPECTIVE CHANGES IN GOH CONSTITUTE
NO THREAT TO US INTERESTS. WE ALSO NOTE THAT MILITARY
OFFICERS WHO ARE CURRENTLY PRESSING FOR CHANGE ARE
CONCERNED OVER POSSIBLE IMPACT OF CHANGE ON GOH IMAGE
ABROAD AND PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
DURING RECONSTRUCTION PHASE.

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2. FROM HERE IT APPEARS THAT MILITARY ACTIVISTS ARE
NOT MERELY PASSING ON INFORMATION BUT ARE ATTEMPTING
TO GAUGE LIKELY US REACTION OR GATHER US IMPRESSIONS

OF CONSEQUENCES OF CHANGE BEFORE MAKING THEIR MOVE.
DEPT DOES NOT WANT EMBASSY TO BE IN POSITION OF HAVING
DIRECT CONTACT WITH PLOTTERS, OF BEING PRIVY IN
ADVANCE TO THEIR MOVES OR ADVISING THEM ON CONSEQUENCES.
THEREFORE EMBASSY SHOULD AVOID ANY FURTHER
CONTACT WITH ACTIVISTS.

3. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER ACTIVISTS UNDERSTAND FULLY

PROBABLE NEGATIVE IMPACT WHICH ABRUPT CHANGE WOULD
HAVE ON IFI'S AND POSSIBLE BILATERAL DONORS WHO PLAN
TO ATTEND TEGUCIGALPA MEETING ON DECEMBER 6 AND 7.
THEY MAY UNDERESTIMATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A
NEGATIVE IMPACT OR NOT FULLY APPRECIATE THE CRITICAL
IMPORTANCE OF PROMPT BALANCE OF PAYMENT SUPPORT. THEY
MAY ALSO MISTAKENLY THINK THAT THE USG WILL PROVIDE
NECESSARY ASSISTANCE IF INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT IS
DELAYED OR IS NOT FORTHCOMING. IF EMBASSY THINKS
THAT ACTIVISTS ARE LABORING UNDER SUCH MISAPPRE-
HENSIONS, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED, IN DISCONTINUING
CONTACTS WITH ACTIVISTS, TO NOTE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE
OF DECEMBER MEETING OF DONORS TO HONDURAN RECON-
STRUCTION EFFORTS AND INABILITY OF USG ALONGE TO
PROVIDE NECESSARY LEVELS OF ASSISTANCE. INGERSOLL

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